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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Houses For The Workers

THE protest that Government has no declared policy for wholesale housing of the lower income groups of people in Hongkong is not without substance, yet it must not be forgotten that the Authorities have encouraged schemes for the provision of workers' houses at economic rentals. It is unfair to suggest that Government has remained oblivious of the general housing problem. It has been argued in several quarters—and with logic—that the question of resettling squatters and providing decent accommodation for other less affluent sections of the population are dovetailing problems; that official concentration on the plight of the squatters creates an invidious distinction. For the moment Government is committed to a definite resettlement programme and it must remain its chief preoccupation. Nevertheless we believe that the Authorities should, either through its own specialised departments or through an appointed body, go thoroughly into the subject of a housing programme for the low wage earners who have their livelihood here and are permanent residents and citizens. It is claimed that experience has shown that the squatters are unwilling to have their dwelling houses removed from their places of work and that this has prevented satellite squatter areas being created under official supervision. But it is unlikely the same argument would hold good in dealing with other sections of the community who desperately need cheap, but decent housing accommodation.

IT is common throughout the world for workers of all types—manual labourers, artisans, clerks and shop assistants—to live considerable distances from where they work, and with the Colony's urban areas now so heavily built up, land shortage has become acute. The development of satellite townships is today virtually a necessity. It is in this direction that Government and private enterprise might well be able to engage in a partnership that would considerably solve the housing problem. There is, for example, a very large area in the Shatin valley which could be easily, and from the point of view of cost, reasonably reclaimed, and a substantial building site prepared. Government should hold itself responsible for this part of the enterprise and thereafter make available the land at a nominal charge to approved building societies or private enterprise for the development of a housing estate for workers, either on a hire-purchase system or at economic rentals. Shatin already possesses its domestic services and with its rail and road communications suggests itself as an ideal area for a large-scale housing scheme. A move in this direction would at least remove the stigma that Government possesses no policy in relation to the housing of the less privileged residents of the Colony.

KING DISCHARGED BY MAGISTRATE

Holds He Has No Case To Answer FULL REPORT OF FINDINGS

James Joseph Osbourne King, merchant, of 20 Braga Circuit, who was brought to Court on a charge of fraudulent conversion in October 1952 was discharged by Mr Poon Yan-hoi at Central this morning when he held that King had no case to answer.

Mr Poon held against the Defence submissions that his Court had no jurisdiction to hear the case, but he upheld the contention that the \$6,305.94 which King was accused of having taken for the use of his wife while a Director of George Falconer and Co. Ltd., in November 1950, was not proved to have been Falconer's money.

Several of King's friends were in Court and they crowded around to congratulate him after the findings had been made known.

VERBAL DECISION

Delivering his verbal decision this morning, Mr Poon said: "This is a decision given by this Court on a submission of no case to answer made by Defence Counsel. Before I deal with the points raised I would like to summarise the facts of the case put forward by the Prosecution."

It was alleged by the Prosecution that at all material times in this case the defendant was a Director of Falconer's Company. In 1950, Falconer's Company entered into a contract with Holden and Co. Australia, for the supply of Jockey Club badges. Similar contracts had been entered into between the same parties during 1948 and 1949. It was found that the price in the 1950 contract was considerably higher and it was alleged also that in 1948 and 1949 the contracts relating to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. In 1950, documents relating to this contract were sent to the Mercantile Bank. It was also alleged that all the documents relating to the 1948 and 1949 contracts were found in the files of Falconer's Company, but in the 1950 contract the only documents found in the files of the Company were an invoice, Ex. E8, and also a copy of a telegram sent by the defendant to Holden's. (Of course there were other entries relating to this contract, but these were the only two documents relating to this contract.)

CHEQUE DRAWN

It has been proved to this Court by the Prosecution that in 1950 the defendant, for this 1950 contract, had drawn a cheque on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank from Falconer's account with the Bank for the sum of \$12,500.00, the equivalent of £2,193 10s 0d. This sum was set out in the invoice. It was also alleged by the Prosecution that this cheque was a cash cheque, while in the previous two contracts of 1948 and 1949 the cheques were to "order" to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank by cross-cheque on both occasions. It was found also that only \$9,209.88, the equivalent of £705 13s 5d, was paid to the Mercantile Bank for these goods, the badges. It was also proved that on November

16, 1950 the defendant approached a gentleman called Percy, who for a loan of \$9,209.88, the exact amount paid to the Mercantile Bank for these goods. This \$9,209.88 was paid by the defendant into his own account with the American Express, but on the latter hand the \$15,590.88 drawn on the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was paid into Mrs King's account (defendants' wife) with the American Express on November 17, 1950, and on November 18 Mrs King gave Mr Percy a cheque for \$9,209.88 which is the amount the defendant borrowed from Mr Percy. It was alleged by the Prosecution that the difference between these two sums, \$6,305.94, is unaccounted for and is the subject matter of the charge of fraudulent conversion against the defendant.

THE DEFENCE

To go on to the Defence. It was submitted by the Defence (1) that there was no case to answer; (2) that this Court has no jurisdiction to hear this case. These are the two main points put forward by the Defence. I shall deal with the second point first. This was raised on two grounds (a) that there was sworn evidence in the process of bringing the defendant into Court and (b) there was no complaint or information. Dealing with point (a) I am of the opinion that any irregularity or defect in the process of bringing the defendant into Court is cured by the appearance and by his pleading to the charge without objection.

Mr Poon said he based his opinion on two case authorities which he cited, so that any irregularity in the process of bringing the defendant to the Court did not affect the jurisdiction of the Court.

Continuing his Worship said: As regards the point of there being no complaint or information, I think that this point can best be dealt with by another authority (which he proceeded to cite) which was decisive on the point. In the present case there was a complainant, Mr Seymour, although he had no authority because there was no resolution of the Board of Directors of Falconer's authorising him to do so. In view of the case, I have cited, I say that this has (Contd. on back page, Col. 6)

Wreckage Of Comet



Part of the wreckage of the Comet jet airplane, which crashed in the Mediterranean with a loss of 35 lives, is examined after being brought ashore at Porto Azzurro, Isle of Elba. It is suspected that the plane was sabotaged.—London Express.

Britain Gripped By Big Freeze

London, Jan. 28. The big freeze tightened its grip on Britain today. Temperatures dropped even lower than yesterday. London's temperature was below freezing point for nearly 48 hours. Afternoon temperatures today were 26 degrees Fahrenheit.

But it was much colder in other parts of the country. Titles of Britain's coldest spot was claimed by Trotton, Sussex, where the mercury plunged to minus four degrees Fahrenheit—38 degrees below freezing during the night. Newbury, in Berkshire, was runnerup with 30 below.

Nearly half of Britain's 83,000 square miles was seriously affected by snow and ice during the day and the area was extending hourly.

Off the south-east coast, the sea was freezing. Large packs of ice were reported washed ashore off Swalecliffe, Kent.

Weather forecasters gave "no hope of relief for at least another two days."

Stories of marauding wolves, ice-bound canal traffic, skating accidents, destruction of crops and power cuts flowed in from frost-bitten Europe today.

"WINTER'S TALE"

This was the "winter's tale" as told by Reuters message: Rome: Mayor Eudilio Bealardini of Monte Ferrante rode a race for life with two hungry wolves in the snow-covered Abruzzi mountains of Central Italy.

The wolves were faster than his midget motorcyclist, but as they reached him he leapt from the machine into a tree where he stayed until some peasants heard his cries four hours later and chased the wolves away.

Paris: The frozen bodies of two schoolboys, aged eight and 13 were dragged from an ice-covered lake near Bethune, Northern France, today after an all-night search. They were thought to have fallen in while skating.

More than 50,000 labourers queued at Dortmund labour exchanges after buildings closed at the end of the week. Water was stopped when lock machinery froze. Ice breakers were used to open canals near the German frontier.

Vienna: Firemen cut holes in ice covering ponds and lakes today, saving ducks and geese from drowning. A flock of 100 geese was rescued from a frozen pond near the city.

Secret Session To Discuss Question Of A 5-Power Conference

Berlin, Jan. 28. Unable to reach agreement on the calling of a five-power conference, including Communist China, but with general acceptance of the idea that Communist China and other nations could be included in future discussions of various world problems, the foreign ministers of Britain, the United States, France and Soviet Russia tonight agreed to hold a secret session on the Soviet Russian proposal to convene a five-power conference. The decision was taken on the initiative of the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden, who told his three colleagues that, since no agreement had been reached on the first item of the Soviet agenda (lessening world tension and the convening of a five-power conference), it was his idea that the meeting should proceed to the question of Germany and return to the first point later.

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Vyacheslav Molotov, who added that a special committee should be formed to discuss the problem, finally agreed to the holding of a secret session, but reserved the right to bring up the question of the formation of a committee to study ways and means of bringing Communist China into international councils.

Mr Molotov then proposed that a conference on general disarmament should be called this year within the framework of the United Nations, but including countries which were not members of the international organization. He suggested that this proposal, which was seen as another attempt to bring Communist China into world councils, should be co-ordinated with the present discussion of atomic questions.

Making his proposal in the form of a resolution, Mr Molotov said that the Western representatives, so far, had made no reply to the Soviet proposal for a five-power conference. He said that the United Nations should not only for the four big powers but for others.

Emphatically denying that his attempt to call a five-power conference was an attempt to create an organization to replace the United Nations, Mr Molotov told the Western foreign ministers at today's session that he had read the United Nations Charter before the opening of the conference. He admonished his Western colleagues to read the Charter every morning and evening—a necessity if they wanted to apply it correctly without modifying it.

Soviet Russia, he said, supported the United Nations Charter and added that the convening of a five-power conference would have a solid legal basis.

"BADLY INFORMED" Mr Molotov accused the American Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, of being badly informed. He said that Mr Dulles had made disparaging remarks about the Chinese People's Republic, but this was because Mr Dulles received his information from "the puppets of the Kuomintang at the United Nations."

He rejected the charges of aggression made against the Chinese People's Republic made by the British and French foreign ministers and added: "It is not right to blame one's faults on others."

Mr Molotov said that the Chinese People's Republic deserved a place of honour in the concert of the great nations. Earlier in the session, the French Foreign Minister, Mr Georges Bidault, told his colleagues that France was not opposed to a conference, including Communist China, to deal with peace in Asia.

TENSE SESSION In the most tense session of the four foreign ministers to date, events moved quickly at today's session.

Mr Dulles, for the second time, categorically rejected the idea of a five-power conference with "the fabulous Chou En-lai" (Chinese Communist Premier and Foreign Minister) and urged the conference to plan for the second item of the agenda.

Speaking in German, the French Foreign Minister said to his host after Mr Dulles and Mr Molotov had left that he was not opposed to a conference, but that he was not in a position to open for all forms of discussion with Communist China, who was not a member of the United Nations.

Mr Molotov, then, asked the three Western ministers whether they would accept the Soviet proposal to convene a five-power conference, including Communist China, to deal with peace in Asia.

NOT A REJECTION

M. Bidault then told Mr Molotov that discussions of specific questions with the states concerned did not constitute a rejection of Mr Molotov's proposal.

The British Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden, took the line that the master of Communist China could be left to deal with the matter of negotiations with China.

It was finally decided to hold a secret session on the subject next week.

The Soviet Foreign Minister then gave his reasons for supporting the convening of the five-power conference, without their advisers, to examine the procedure to be adopted for a discussion of the German and Austrian questions.

France Press.

8 SENTENCED TO DEATH

London, Jan. 28. A Chinese Communist court has sentenced eight men to death and 30 others to imprisonment on charges of working for the intelligence service of the United States and Chiang Kai Shek, the official Soviet news agency, today.

The accused, confessed their crimes and were sentenced by the People's Court at Canton, the message said.

Sixty were arraigned, but those who surrendered voluntarily to the authorities were dealt with more leniently by the court, Tass said—Reuters.

ATTEMPT TO KIDNAP FOILED

Singapore, Jan. 29. A Chinese millionaire here foiled an attempt to kidnap him by successfully outracing his prospective kidnappers along a coastal road on Thursday night.

Leo Kong, Thai managing director of an import and export firm, was travelling in a car with his wife along the main road where two Chinese millionaires had been kidnapped in recent weeks, when a small car drew alongside with four suspicious-looking persons in it. Leo Kong, however, noticed the small car, trailed it for about a mile and a half, and then suddenly bumped it from behind. Leo said he ordered his driver to drive at full speed and successfully eluded the trailing car.

Three weeks ago, a Chinese millionaire met the same type of accident on the same road. A small car deliberately bumped into his car and when the millionaire and his driver got out to inspect the damage, four men confronted them with pistols and drove them off into captivity until the ransom of more than M\$100,000 was paid.

Leo said last night, "The last case of kidnapping in my mind and there was no question of stopping to study the damage caused by the accident."

Meanwhile, a big posse of detectives raided a factory in the northern suburb yesterday and detained nine men for questioning. It was understood that the raid was in connection with the two previous kidnappings but no police statement has been issued.—United Press.

Opposition's Motion Of Censure

London, Jan. 28. The Labour Party introduced a motion of censure tonight against the Churchill Government for adopting a Belgian-designed rifle instead of a British one.

The censure motion is to be debated on Monday and it was believed the Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill, would take up the challenge personally.

Sir Winston personally announced the decision to adopt the Belgian weapon in place of the British-designed FN-3 model last week. The Premier ordered the House of Commons two days ago to stop down critics of the decision, even as British politicians were speculating about rumours that he intended to retire. He said then that in some respects the Belgian rifle was "superior" to the British design, which the previous Labour government and Sir Winston himself had tried to get the United States to adopt.

The censure motion was introduced by the former Labour Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, the former Foreign Minister, Mr Herbert Morrison, the former Defence Minister, Mr Kenneth Robinson, and other Labour MPs. The motion was supported by the Opposition.

Explosion At Powder Plant

Saugus, Calif., Jan. 28. An explosion wrecked a detonation inspection room of a powder plant near here today, injuring 16 persons, four of them critically.

Deputy Sheriff originally had reported that one of the all-glass women employed in the detonation room was killed, but a check by officers disclosed no deaths. Sgt. William Jordan announced.

The Bertha Powder Company plant was reported to have been in top-level Navy production and might be used to produce some important items for the Navy.

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All-German Elections Paramount

THE FIRST STEP TO UNITY

Berlin, Jan. 28.

West German leaders, both Government and opposition, said today the essential first step to German reunification is the carrying out of free elections in all of the nation.

It is the often-expressed and unanimous opinion of the West German Parliament that reunification involves the following steps, in this order:

1. Free all-German elections.
2. Formation of an all-German Government.
3. Negotiation between this government and the Big Four of a peace treaty.
4. Negotiation between this government and its neighbours to settle the various frontier problems, particularly that of the Polish-German border, and
5. Complete freedom of action by this government to negotiate international treaties.

However, there is considerable disparity of views between the Government and the Socialist opposition when it comes to expressing these five broad aims in detail.

On free elections, it is generally agreed that there should be some kind of international supervision, preferably by the United Nations but also perhaps by the Big Four to insure that they are truly democratic.

Both the Government and the opposition feel that there should be a period of at least six months before the elections during which political parties would be permitted to campaign throughout the nation, all newspapers could be circulated everywhere, and all citizens could move about the country at will.

At the moment the Soviet zone is tightly sealed off from the remainder of Germany in both travel and propaganda, and whatever their names, the political parties there are led by pro-Communists.

The first Government-opposition dispute comes on the second step. West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer says that the first parliament should initially concern itself with writing a national constitution. Until that constitution is put into effect, he argues, the present East and West German governments should retain executive authority, with the condition, however, that the East German regime is "democratised."

DISAPPOINTING

The Socialist opposition says this is tantamount to recognition of the East German government and would be extremely disappointing if not downright traitorous to the East German people so long under the Red heel.

Undoubtedly, the two points of view are to some extent dictated by political tactics, since both Dr Adenauer's Christian Democrats and the Socialists are scheming for control of the first National Assembly. If the West German Government remains in authority even after the first National Assembly is elected, the Socialists' chances of controlling the latter body are nil.

On points three and four, there seems to be general agreement. But on the last point, negotiation of Germany's future status, the Government and the opposition in West Germany are at each other's throats.

Dr Adenauer, whose whole policy is based on the closest possible collaboration with the Western world and within a tightly-knit European political, economic and military community, insists that his Government is the only true representative of Germany today.

MUST BE BINDING

Any agreements such as the Schuman Plan, European Coal and Steel Pool and the European Defence Community which his Government has agreed, he says, must also be binding on any future all-German government.

The Socialist opposition, however, claims that Russia will never agree to German reunification unless the European Army scheme is scrapped, and that the Germans must give

reunification priority over all else. Furthermore, the Socialists say it is up to the Big Four to decide about future German reunification. If any. The Socialists oppose German membership in any defensive alliance as making reunification impossible and say that United Nations membership should offer Germany as much security as she needs.

Dr Adenauer says that such an arrangement would amount to neutralisation of Germany, and the rather sudden withdrawal of British and American troops from the continent. When this happens, he fears, Russia will quickly take over Germany by coercion. The United Nations, he adds, offers no real security because of the Soviet Security Council veto.

Both government and opposition are agreed, however, that under no conditions can Germany accept the Oder-Neisse line as her permanent eastern frontier.—United Press.

UK-Hungary To Start Trade Talks

London, Jan. 28. Britain and Hungary will start trade and financial talks here next March. It was announced officially today by the two governments.

A communiqué said: "It has been agreed between the Hungarian and British Governments that in order to settle financial and trade questions, negotiations will start in London in March." Attempts to restart trade and debt talks between the two countries have been in progress since the release by Hungary of the imprisoned British business man, Mr Edgar Sanders last August.

Trade and debt negotiations were broken off by Britain in 1949 as a protest against the arrest and imprisonment of Mr Sanders on a charge of espionage.—Reuter.

Important Announcement Promised

London, Jan. 28. Sir Alfred Savage, the Governor of British Guiana, said here on Thursday night that a very important announcement about the Colony would be made within the next 10 days.

Speaking before leaving London on his return to Guiana, Sir Alfred would not enlarge on the contents of the "important announcement" beyond saying that it would be of great significance to Guiana and British Guiana.

The Governor said that he had come to London for talks with Mr Henry Hopkinson, the Minister of State for the Colonies, concerning a report of the International Bank on Economic Development.—France Press.

Britain's New Atomic Factory



This picture, released by the Ministry of Supply, shows one of Britain's new atomic factories at Windscale. The man chosen to direct the design, construction and operation of the factories was Sir Christopher Hinton, a distinguished civil engineer. This building of the atomic factories (three in all; others are at Springfields and Capenhurst) was one of the biggest engineering projects undertaken in Britain since the war. The size of the project and the speed with which they were built greatly increased the variety and magnitude of ordinary problems of engineering and construction. The designers were faced with technical and scientific difficulties never before met by British engineers because it was the first time an atomic factory had been built. Yet despite this each of the three factories was operating within a month of the planned date and the first bulk output of plutonium was produced at the date specified. Health protection for the employees has been so perfected that at these factories they are safer from occupational hazards than workers in any other industry. This picture shows the pipelines running from the Windscale factory to the sea. They carry medium active effluent after treatment for discharge into the sea.—Central Press.

Anglo-Jap Sterling Talks Completed

London, Jan. 28.

The British and Japanese delegations today successfully concluded their seven-week talks on a new sterling payment which will be signed here tomorrow, according to a usually reliable source.

He declined to give details of the extent of 1954 trade between Japan and the sterling area covered by the agreement.

The Japanese delegation here earlier in the talks proposed the 1954 trade between Japan and the sterling area should be estimated at about £20,000,000 each way. It was not known to-night what the agreed estimate was.

Mr Shunichi Matsumoto, Ambassador to Britain, and Mr Selwyn Lloyd, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, will sign the agreement.

Mr Lloyd will represent Mr Anthony Eden, Foreign Secre-

tary, who is now attending the Big Four Foreign Ministers' Berlin conference.

The main aim of the discussions began on December 3, was to review the 1951 Anglo-Japanese sterling payments agreement which, after three extensions, lapses on Monday.

Officials of the two delegations held a final business session at the Treasury today. Mr Reginald Maullin, Economic Secretary to the British Treasury, told the House of Commons in a written reply that the negotiations were "nearly completed."—Reuter.

Australian Papers Attack U.S. New Guinea Plan

Feeling is running high in Australia against an American proposal to employ Japanese in a survey team to visit New Guinea and other of its Pacific dependencies.

The Sydney Morning Herald, in effect, told the Australian Government to refuse to allow the Japanese into New Guinea. Three other papers, reflecting all political shades, also objected to the proposal.

In Washington officials would not comment on the situation "until the position has been clarified." The Australian Government has not yet announced its reply to the American proposal, and observers believe that as the Federal Elections are due to take place in June, it will refuse to let Japanese admissions to New Guinea.

Sydney, Jan. 29. Australian meeting papers today again attacked the American proposal to include Japanese "in the teams to conduct a survey of Australia's northern island areas under the Angus pact."

The Sydney Morning Herald said this survey issue could be politically explosive.

"The Government would be wise to let it be known without delay that in no circumstances, not even on the most stringent security conditions, will it agree to the employment of Japanese on the defence survey work around the island territories," the Herald said.

Referring to reports that the Australian Cabinet is likely to veto the American plan, said "such a decision would be welcomed by the Australian public as elementary common sense." The Angus pact is more likely to work if we make ourselves perfectly clear to the Americans on the issues of this sort. Goodwill depends on good understanding and there clearly has been lack of it somewhere.

The Melbourne Sun-Pictorial said "there should be no delay

in telling Washington in the friendliest and warmest manner that the presence of Japanese in this area for the purpose designated is unacceptable.... It would be unfortunate if the survey were to be abandoned."

ABANDON IT

"But it is better that it should be abandoned for the present time than persisted with under conditions likely to engender antagonism and mistrust."

The Melbourne Age called for a frank statement from the Government and said only half the story seemed to have been told.

"If it is true that the Americans proposed and the Australian Government agreed that Japanese technicians should participate in a job closely associated with the defence of Australia's island territories and regions of the northern areas, the public would be deeply shocked and disturbed."

The Age said: "It is scarcely credible that this type of survey mapping is so urgent for purposes of defence or maritime trading as to necessitate the employment of former enemies on a task bearing directly on our own naval-military strategy."

The paper added: "Whatever the Americans proposed or the reason they gave for so doing, the Japanese should have no part in a job of this nature."

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★ SHOWING TO-DAY ★



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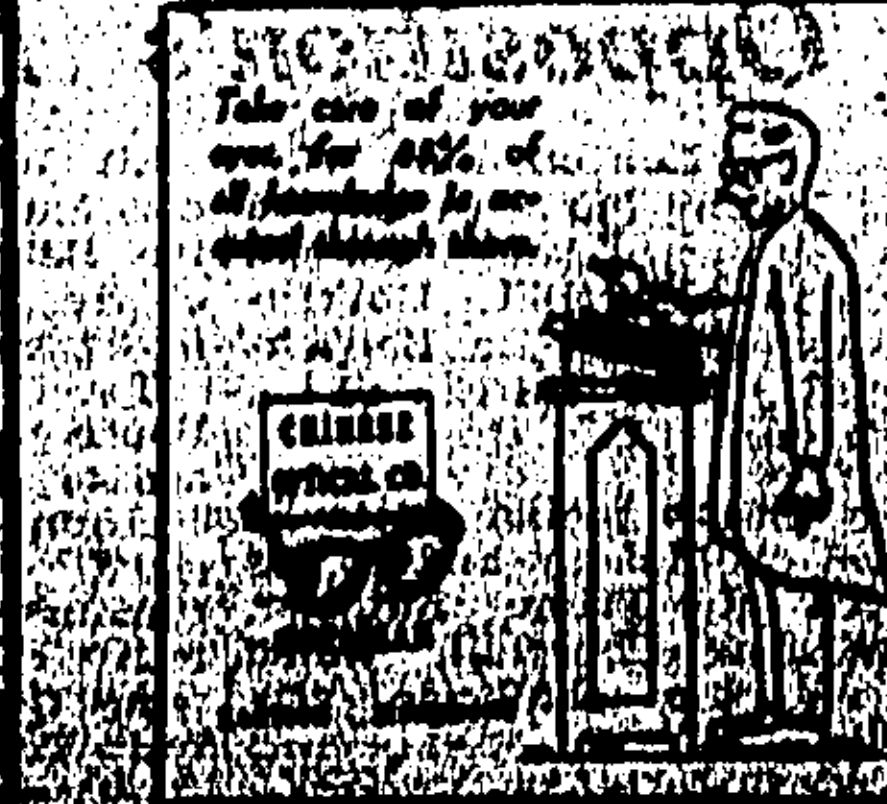
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Also Listed Paramount News at Empire

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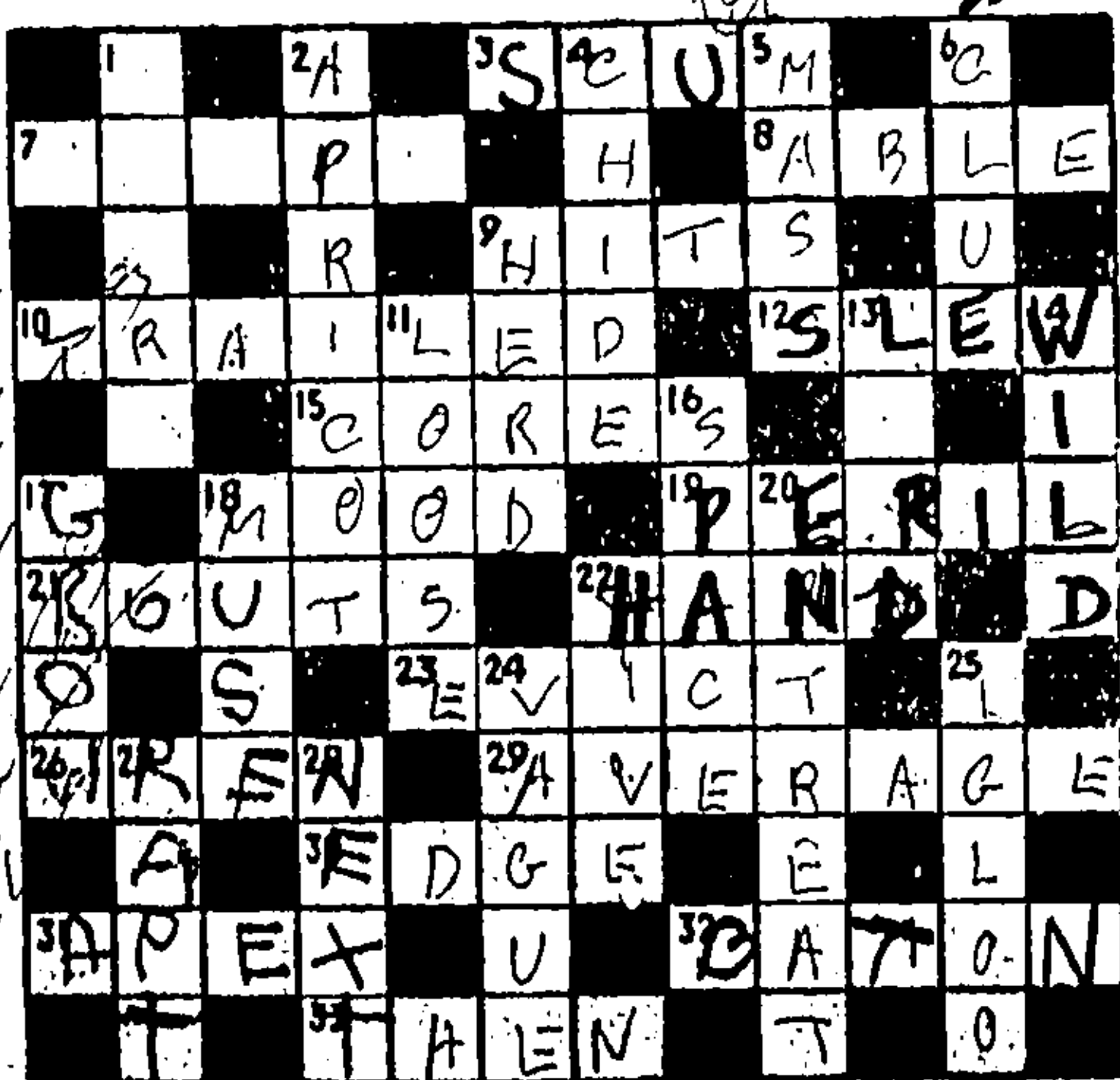
United Nations, New York, Jan. 28.

Moral: Don't Say Anything!

In Singapore:

Singapore, Jan. 29.
The feminist Mrs. Shir...

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

3 Dross (4).
7 Rapacious female (5).
8 Clever (4).
9 Strikes (4).
10 Tracked (7).
12 Slaughtered (4).
13 Kernels (5).
15 State of mind (4).
16 Danger (5).
21 Puts to flight (5).
22 Skoin (4).
23 Oust (5).
26 Bird (4).
29 Medium (7).
30 Border (4).
31 Highest point (4).
32 Staff (5).
33 Not vice (4).

DOWN

1 Child (5).
2 Fruit (7).
3 Scold (5).
4 Multitude (4).
5 Adhesive (4).
6 Flock (4).
7 Slack (5).
8 Frolic (4).
9 Untamed (4).
10 Gap (5).
11 Expand (4).
12 Meditate (4).
13 Beg (7).
14 Industrial centre (4).
15 Infinite (5).
16 Snow-hut (5).
17 Ecstacy (4).
18 Adjacent (4).

Tito Says Satellites Have One Million Troops On Yugoslavia's Borders

Bonn, Jan. 28.

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a gasworks
—BUT SHE'D RATHER
SEE 'SIR CHURCHILL'

MISS MOH will be bored with Britain. She expects to be. The leading woman poet of South Korea files in from Seoul soon at the British Government's expense. She files back (still a guest of the taxpayer) after a frantic month's sightseeing. And as she goes, I'm afraid she'll be stifling a yawn. Simply because somehow, somewhere, someone's made a slight mistake.

I heard all about it in a small strawfloored apartment in central Seoul. Miss Youn Sook Moh, Syngman Rhee's 38-year-old "maker of heavenly verse," told me what happens when civil servants invite you to Britain.

"Of course it is impolite to examine the mouth of the gift horse," she explained. "It is the greatest kindness to make me your guest. But surely somebody was not making the full use of his head?"

HOUSING ESTATES...

And a circus

SHE handed me the neatly typed Foreign Office itinerary. Arrival by plane. Departure ditto. In between, visits to housing estates, factories, the Gloucester County Police, a circus, the coast (weather permitting), a football match (if desired).

Miss Moh shrugged. "I am making the travel with three Korean editors. It will be fascinating for them to see everything. But I am a poet. I desire to meet British poets, painters, and musicians. I wish to see your famous ballet, your excellent opera and symphonies. What do I get?"

A STEEL WORKS...

And a panto

SHE picked out a typical day's sightseeing. Visit to iron and steel works. A rolling mill. A pantomime. "It is possible to detect the mistake. I too am an editor of one small poetry magazine. So it is the idea of your officials that I must make the bustle about."

"Oh, they are so wrong. I wish no hurry no official engagements. I wish to spend time sensing the spirit of the British people and write one poetry book about them." A maid entered with a lacquer tray and two cups. As we sipped our milkless tea I heard

by **RUSSELL SPURR**

about Miss Moh's most popular works. "Storm" describes her flight from Communism in the first days of the North Korean invasion. Her two terrifying months hiding in the mountains, hunted by troops and agents, sleeping in caves and even graves, living on roots and grass. "I put much of my soul into that book," she said.

But the best-seller was "Ren's Ekegy," now in its tenth edition, the story of a girl's love for a prominent Korean at the outbreak of the war. She rescues him from the Communists, only to despise his lack of courage. "It is a patriotic poem like all my work," said Miss Moh. "My attempt was to make Ren the typical modern Korean woman. The editor, yes, and President Rhee himself, remark that it was the most successful."

SOME VERSE, MAYBE...

About England

I WAS given a blotched, misspelt translation of the heroine's final outburst of patriotism.

"If you need my breath and blood, Korea, I'll gladly die. Then my soul will visit you often. If what you want is my life, how can I deny Every drop of blood from my heart?"

Miss Moh smoothed out her rustling peach and bottle green robes. "There is the hope perhaps that I might write something the same of your England. About your great Sir Churchill. How I long to meet him just for a minute. Not as your national leader but as a human being and a figure great in literature. It is my ambition, but—she sighed sadly—get it is the visit to the gasworks."

Memo to Miss Moh: Try to visit Nottingham

**I FIND THE CITY
OF KIND FOLK**

by **JAMES LEASOR**

FOR Nottingham, population 308,000, motto: Virtue survives the grave, I have a new title: The Friendliest City in Britain. And this is why.

I visited Nottingham for the first time a few days ago, driving up from London in an open car, and arriving cold and numb.

The first three hotels I tried were full. So was the fourth—but here I met the kind receptionist. "Come in and set yourself down," she smiled. "Well, ring up a few places for you."

As I strolled out in front of a fine log fire in the hall, a room was found for me—in a private hotel some miles out on the Hucknall Road.

Said the girl: "It's a pleasure when I asked her how much I owed. (And you can be sure that if over I am back in Nottingham I will stay at her hotel.)"

The porter looked up a road map for me; a taxi-driver outside set me on my way. When I foolishly got lost on the outskirts of the city (all my own fault) a man on the pavement came to my aid. I had stopped the car and he saw me studying a road map. He asked where I was going.

The right way

"LOOK here," he said, "you'll never find it on your own. Let me show you."

Down the set beside me, and off we went all the way together—although he admitted afterwards that he had been waiting for a bus to go in the opposite direction.

"Oh, I couldn't see a stranger lost," he explained a little sheepishly. "You might have got the wrong impression of our city. That night, I caught a bus out to Blaxton, seven miles away. I had an appointment with a man

I had never met before. Probably we shall never see each other again, but he could not have been kinder had I been his closest friend.

A fire was stacked up in his sitting-room; there were cakes, coke, and good conversation. And when I said goodbye, I felt real regret at leaving him.

Afterthought

AS I walked at the "request" stop near his house he came running up the street towards me.

"Suddenly thought you might not know there was a stop so close and you'd have gone walking miles up to the Market place," he said. "Wouldn't do you could night like this..."

On the bus back to Nottingham I asked the conductor to let me know when we reached the city centre. A man in a seat behind heard this and inquired where I wanted to go. I told him: Where I could find something to eat.

He took me round three or four restaurants until I found one I liked the look of—although it delayed him on his way home at the end of a shift in an engineering works.

"Don't like anyone to be lost," he said. "Been fed up in strange places myself often enough. I know how it feels. Good night." And the unknown Samaritan walked away in the darkness.

Too late? No

IT was late and the restaurant was closing. "Too late!" I asked, preparing to leave and try elsewhere. "Not a bit of it," said the girl behind the pay desk. "You come in and have a good meal. And I did."

So to bed, after a day in which I have been shown more kindness by strangers than any other day I can remember.



MISS MOH, "MAKER OF HEAVENLY VERSE."
"It is impolite to examine the mouth of the gift horse..." but—

**DOES IT PAY
to tap the bear
ON THE NOSE?**

★ TO-DAY, the man who
stood up to Stalin
gives an answer

**FIELD-MARSHAL
BARON MANNERHEIM**, more than any other single person, was responsible for the independence of Finland.

It fell to him in the course of his long career to lead his country in no fewer than three struggles against her giant neighbour, Russia—the War of Liberation in 1918, the "Winter War" of 1939-40, and the war of 1941-44. His memoirs will command wide attention.

For the first 50 years of Mannerheim's life—he was born in 1867 and died in 1951—Finland was a semi-independent Grand Duchy under the Russian Tsars, who had conquered it from Sweden in 1809. Mannerheim belonged to the cosmopolitan aristocracy, largely German in origin, which surrounded the court of St Petersburg. He does not at this time appear to have taken any special interest in Finland's independence. For persons of his class the opportunities of political and military service in Imperial Russia were far wider than they would have been in the parochial world of an autonomous Finland.

He entered the Imperial Cavalier Guards, fought in the Russo-Japanese war, rode across Asia from Samarkand to Peking (it took him two years) on a military mission for the Russian Chief of Staff, and commanded an Imperial Russian division in the 1914 war.

The Bolshevik revolution brought his career in the Tsar's service to an end. He made his way to Finland, not without difficulty, and became at once involved in the struggle for Finnish independence. Suppose that England had gone Communist in 1918: we might well have seen regular soldiers of Anglo-Irish aristocratic origin playing a similar role in Ireland.

Mr. Mannerheim, Chief of the Imperial Russian Cavalier Guards, 1914.

Lenin, on the new principles of enlightenment that were supposed to govern Bolshevik foreign policy, had recognised Finland's autonomy—in theory. In practice Russian Communist troops were trying to convert the country into a Red Republic. Thanks largely to Mannerheim's military talents and the fighting qualities of the Finns, the Red armies were totally defeated.

Finland now enjoyed 20 years of uneasy independence. Like all the minor nations which lay between the Russian and German spheres of influence, she was in a precarious position. Her

Independence was due—not, as the virtuous Anglo-Saxon supporters of the League of Nations claimed, to a new respect for the rights of small countries—but to the power vacuum which had followed the unexpected simultaneous collapse of both Imperial Germany and Imperial Russia in 1918.

That vacuum did not last for long. At the end of November 1939 Russia attacked Finland. The "Winter War" had begun.

To the amazement of the world the Finnish Army, again under Mannerheim, resisted with remarkable success. The upstart incompetence of the Russian army, which had contributed largely to Hitler's decision to invade Russia 18 months later. Nevertheless after 3½ months, the Finns, having received no help from the Western allies, felt obliged to seek what terms they could from their enemy.

It is not surprising that they now turned to Germany. The German attack on Russia in June 1941 gave Finland a chance of reversing the humiliating terms imposed upon her. It is to be remembered, however, that Finland was by no means a German satellite, and that Mannerheim firmly refused to allow the Finnish army to be used for an offensive against Leningrad.

At the end of 1941, Russian pressure obliged Mr. Churchill, who in 1940 had referred to "Finland—superb, nay sublime—in the jaws of peril"—to declare war upon that unhappy

**Butler's New
Year Bounty**

By
LES ARMOUR

THE tax on that dog in the window, the one with the corkscrew tail, has been cut by two-thirds—a manoeuvre which leaves him exactly even with the dog with a corkscrew in his stomach.

This is part of Mr Butler's New Year bounty to the British taxpayer. How much he will lose on Fido is a matter of some mystery, but the pundits reckon that he has given away £2,000,000 a year in his cuts on "luxury" tax.

That works out at something like 10d. for every man, woman and child in the country. So if each of us drinks an extra pint of ale by way of celebration, the treasury will be right back where it started.

SIGNIFICANCE

Whatever Mr Butler is about, it is plain that he has not decided that the British Government can get along without money. The significance of the gesture centres, rather, around some delicate matters of psychology.

This is where Fido comes in. Fido had 75 percent added to his price because the tax experts rated him an ornament and not a utensil. Since the corkscrew, to quote Mr Butler, "forms an integral part of the body" he got into the high-price class. Had the corkscrew projected from his body, he would have escaped with a measly 25 percent tax. The public thought the Government was surely mad.

Now it doesn't matter and everybody is breathing easily. But it would be uncharitable to suggest that china shop Fidos were the root cause of the bounty. The gesture is, in fact, an assault on the apparent cost of living.

The tax on gold, silver, jewellery, mirrors, walking sticks and vases drops from 75 percent to 50 percent; the tax on washing and fabric lampshades falls from 50 percent to 25 percent.

Now most of us hardly ever buy any of these things. But walk through the glittering West End on Saturday night and watch the crowds: jewellers and furniture dealers attract bigger crowds than Marilyn Monroe ever dreamed of.

These are the focal points for the dreams of the young man with a pretty girl on his arm, and the middle-aged man who can allow his imagination to expand in the anonymity of an Oxford Street shopping crowd.

We want to buy these things. But it takes all the fun out of wanting if we think that nearly half the price would go to the Treasury.

And so the milkbar waitress who dreams of a duchess's tiara will thank Mr Butler. More important, the Briton in the street will know that things are getting better—that prices are coming down and not going up—and the psychological effect cannot but be good.

That may be important just now when a wave of labour unrest is sweeping the country. The unrest has been generated more by a feeling of frustration than by any real facts about wages and prices. And purchase tax cuts are a good way to counter that feeling.

Mr Butler is playing his difficult game with a masterful hand.

**TAIKOO
SOFT BROWN
SUGAR**

IDEAL FOR COFFEE
CAKES & CORN FLAKES

Just what you've
been asking for!

NOW ON SALE AT ALL
SHOPS AND STORES

TOMORROW'S INTERNATIONAL

ALL-BLACKS MAY CHANGE THEIR TACTICS—BUT ENGLAND SHOULD WIN

Says J. R. WATKINS

At Twickenham tomorrow afternoon England will try to beat the All-Blacks and so emulate Wales. Whether they can or not is a matter for conjecture. One thing, however, does seem certain: The 70,000 spectators will see the match of the season.

Can then the New Zealanders give England a closer fight than conquerors Wales, who themselves only lost to England through a last-minute try?

The answer, I think, is yes. For New Zealand have learned quite a lot from their tour. They have discovered that weight alone is not enough to carry the day; that victory does not necessarily go to those whose forwards can shove the hardest, and whose backs can kick the farthest.

That they are profiting from these lessons was evident in the recent game against Pontypool-Cross Keys. The forwards, of course, still pushed with might and main, but the backs ran with the ball, with better results than their previous kick-and-rush tactics.

Against strong opposition, they gained a crushing 19-0 victory, largely because the open game gave Jarden a chance to prove his worth.

MAY MARK A CHANGE

So tomorrow's match may mark a change in the tactics used by New Zealand in international games. And this, in turn, could affect the whole game as played in New Zealand. For, in the last 50 years, New

Zealand have placed more and more faith in the full back and the forwards. The change came after their first England tour in 1908-9. Then they introduced the controversial seven-forward scrum, packing 2-3-2, the eighth member, skipper Dave Galleher, calling himself "wing forward."

Virtually another half back, he gave the New Zealanders a tremendous increase in scoring potential and helped them amass the staggering total of 888 points in 33 games.

But the advantage of the new line-up was nullified when other countries adopted it, and it was dropped by general consent.

So, their back-play gimmick having been countered, New Zealand concentrated on the forwards, having a built-in pack supported by accurate place kicking.

In the second tour of England in 1924-25 this tactical direction came from the sure foot of Mark Nicholls at centre or five-eight. In 1935-36, the

mantle fell on that magnificent full-back, G. Gilbert. And how well he bore it! In addition to supporting the attack he kicked 120 of the team's 431 points. Today, skipper Bob Scott carries on the tradition. Just how this trend changed the game from an offensive to a defensive one can be seen from the scoring chart.

That total of 888 points scored on the first tour dropped to 721 in 1924-25, and to 431 in 1935-36.

MAY WELL EXPERIMENT

Now, having seen that the open game can pay—besides giving them victory over Cross Keys, it was used to good effect against them by Cardiff and Wales—New Zealand may well experiment with it against England.

England, of course, will provide tougher opposition. Then Cross Keys. For they are a streamlined side. From front row forwards to full back the accent is on speed.

They proved this against Wales when even sprightly Cliff Morgan and dashing Ken Jones had their mobility severely curtailed by the tenacious tackling of the England forwards.

So, tomorrow afternoon, the speedy Jarden may find that even with a good look at the ball his opportunities are rare. Thus England may just pull it off. As an Englishman I hope they do. But it will be a close thing.

As a rugby enthusiast, however, I wouldn't mind seeing an attacking New Zealand triumph. It would be a great fillip for fast open rugby, and that, surely, is what every lover of the game likes both to watch and play. (London Express Service).

Eastern "A" Win

George Younger

Snooker Trophy

Eastern "A" won the George Younger Snooker League trophy last night by beating Eastern "B" 3-2 in a match in which the final issue was in doubt until the last few minutes.

J.E. Medina of Eastern "A" brought victory to his side when he sank the pink ball to beat C.P. Cheng of the "B" team by 43-35 in the last match.

With the score tied at 2-2, Medina had to fight hard all the way, and it was not until he sank the pink that he was assured of victory.

Results of the final match, played at the CPO Mess, HMS Tanjong, follow:

S.E. Pong (A) beat C. To (B) 54-53, K.C. Hoo (A) beat T.C. Kwok 74-24, C.L. Chu (A) lost to K.Y. Chiu (B) 38-07, K.C. Chui (A) lost to K.K. Lai (B) 37-54, J.E. Medina (A) beat C.P. Cheng 43-35.

Referees were Chief Yeoman Snook and Chief Petty Officer Middleton.

HKCC TO PLAY

"THE REST"

The Hongkong Cricket Club will be playing a Combined side from the rest of the Civilian Clubs during the Chinese New Year holidays on Wednesday and Thursday, February 3 and 4 at Chater Road. Play will commence on both days at 11.30 a.m. and stumps will be drawn at 5.45 p.m.

NINE DRAGONS

PROGRAMME

FOR FEBRUARY

Following is the Nine Dragons services club programme for February:

Mondays—Closed.

Tuesdays—Whist drive (8 p.m.), refreshments, cash prizes. Services free, ladies, civilians \$1.

Tuesday, Feb. 16—Dance (8 p.m.), prizes, refreshments. Tickets at door \$2. Service wives welcome—no charge.

Wednesdays—Cinema—no charge (8 p.m.). Bridge in the library. (7.30 p.m.).

Wednesday, Feb. 24—"Aces Concert Party" (8 p.m.).

Thursdays—Sports competitions—darts, table tennis (8 p.m.).

Thursday, Feb. 25—Presentation of trophies (9.15 p.m.).

Fridays and Saturdays—Tombola.

Sundays—Cinema—no charge (8 p.m.).

HKFA MEETING

Arrangements for the Shield semi-finals and postponed League fixtures will be made at a meeting of the H.K. Football Association's management committee on Monday at 6 p.m.

The Shield semi-finals are set for February 13 but the grounds and starting times have not been fixed.

TRAINING COMPANY FOR PIRIE



"Wonderman" Gordon Pirie, Britain's Athlete of the Year, has recently started doing some of his training at Ladywell Park (South East London). Although a world champion and record-breaker, this 22-year-old athlete, is always willing to give advice and help to lesser-known athletes and his remarkable stamina and ability to run literally for hours apparently untiring, makes him the perfect pace-maker as he jogs around the track. Usually seen alone on the training track, Gordon Pirie is seen here running round the track at Ladywell Park with three members of the Phoenix Athletic Club (left to right)—Pat Griffiths (18) of Southwark; Gillian Buckle (18) Lewisham; Joan Weaver (20) of New Cross.

Tomorrow's Chances At The Valley

By "RAPIER"

The Hongkong Jockey Club's Annual Race meeting concludes with tomorrow's 10 events.

The First Saddling Bell will be rung at 11.30 a.m., with the first race starting at 12.00 noon sharp.

The Pearce Memorial Cup will be the main attraction and the Cash Sweep will be decided on this race.

Here are my estimates of the chances:

FIRST RACE

Encouragement Handicap: Six Furlongs.

The opening race is confined to Class 9 ponies.

Ironside (Mr Plumby) will be carrying 10 lbs. more for winning the Quarry Bay Handicap from near the 1 1/4 Mile Post at the last meeting. Judging from that performance I do not think the extra weight will hamper its chances of winning again.

Gladiolus (Mr Chun Kit), which was second in the same race, is now fighting fit and may reverse its last defeat at the hands of Ironside if given a good start.

Bright Knight (Mr Pote-Hunt) and Queenpots (Mr Kwok) may have something to say over this distance and I recommend keeping an eye on them.

Evening View (Mr H. C. Pih) is not bad and as an outsider is worth following.

SECOND RACE

Inspiration Handicap: From the 2-Mile Post.

In this race for Class 9 ponies over this distance, Atomic Caesar (Mr F. Nooit) is the obvious choice for first place.

I think that Exquisite Love (Mr Chung) is the only other pony among the entries to challenge it.

For those who are looking for an outsider, I suggest Rosemarie (Mr Peter Young).

Penelope (Mr Kwok) should not be overlooked.

THIRD RACE

Flyaway Handicap: From the 1 1/2 Mile Post.

This race will be contested by Class 4 ponies, and the likely winner should come from among Giddup (Mr Pih), Lawrence (Mr Kwok), English Cabbage (Mr Kwok), and Tom Thumb (Mr Ng).

Giddup, judging from its run on the first day of the Annual Meeting over the mile, when it led until near the last quarter, should have no difficulty in winning this sprint race.

Lawrence is the only danger, otherwise I cannot see anything to touch it.

FOURTH RACE

Jockey Cup: From the 2-Mile Post.

A perusal of the entries in this race for novice jockeys leaves the impression that Peony (Mr Hung) has a good opportunity of winning as it is in splendid condition at the moment.

Chelsea (Mr Yen) must be borne in mind as the pony is improving during morning gallops.

Bitter Sweet (Mr Lam) and Harvest Moon (Mr Wan) are also dangerous and must not be overlooked.

FIFTH RACE

Wongseichong Stakes (First Section): From the 1 1/4 Mile Post.

This race is more or less a gift for Bangometer (Mr Chung) and amongst the entries I do not think there is a pony to extend it.

Beautiful Phoenix (Mr C. A. Lee) should have no difficulty in taking second position with Free Success (Mr Rentrow) and Four Aces (Mr Chen Poo) fighting out the third position.

SIXTH RACE

Pearce Memorial Cup: 1 1/4 Miles.

This is the main event of the afternoon on which the special Cash Sweep will be decided.

Knock-again (Mr Tsai) seems to have the best chance of winning this race.

Bongal Lancer (Mr Chun Kit) may prove dangerous with Citrus (Mr Plumby) also having a say in the matter.

United Fortune (Mr Ng) is good, but I am afraid it is not good enough against the better bets in this field.

SEVENTH RACE

Leighton Hill Stakes: From the 2-Mile Post.

In this event for 1954 Australian subscription ponies—with previous winners and placed ponies barred—Glenshiel (Mr Boycott) has the best recommendation for a win.

New Jersey (Mr Pih) has been whispered of as the "dark horse" in this race, and for those who are prepared to take the risk, a bet each way may turn out to be profitable.

EIGHTH RACE

Wongseichong Stakes (Second Section): From the 1 1/4 Mile Post.

This is another sprint race for 1954 ponies, with winners and placed ponies barred. Judging from their training form, I consider Mount Everest (Mr Tsai) the best amongst the entries and in my estimation it should win comfortably.

Congratulation (Mr Botelho) should fill second place, and Blazing (Mr Chung) will probably take the other position.

As an outsider I suggest Fung Chi (Mr F. Nooit).

NINTH RACE

Tally Ho Handicap: 1 1/4 Miles.

This race is confined to Class 4 ponies with winners at this meeting barred.

There is not much to choose from among the entries, although it seems that the finish should be fought out between Solar Knight (Mr Pote-Hunt) and Fida (Mr Ostromoff), but Say When (Mr Plumby) must also be considered.

The latter pony should give the other two a good run and possibly win.

Beautiful Star (Mr Chung), on its showing at the last meeting with (Mr Tsai) up, is capable of creating an upset.

TENTH RACE

Grandstand Handicap: From the 2-Mile Post.

This is the final event of the Annual Meeting and among the ponies entered, Speedy Roger (Mr Kwok), Tiny Grey (Mr Chun Kit), Diamond Queen (Mr Tsai) and Avoca (Mr Ostromoff) are undoubtedly the best.

Speedy Roger is probably a little better, if we are only to judge by its fine win in the Swann Boy Handicap (Second Section) over the mile at the last meeting for Class 8 ponies.

Tiny Grey must be borne in mind as the pony is improving during morning gallops.

The distance also favours Diamond Queen, but I doubt if it can do better than place.

Avoca is also good over this distance and with only 140 lbs. to carry is definitely worth much consideration.

Spotlighting The Three-Year-Olds of 1954

Angel Bright Will Do Better

There are three beautifully bred and good-looking fillies trained by Captain Cecil Boyd-Rochford, who may have to be considered this year.

They are Angel Bright, Hypera and Dream Girl. None was included in the Free Handicap, as there was not sufficient evidence on which to base an opinion.

Angel Bright was bred by the Queen and carries her colours. The filly is an own sister to Aureole—without any of his mannerisms. She is medium sized and was given every chance to develop in her own time.

Much improvement was shown in her second and last race of the season. In my records the report says she was developing on the right lines and that she will make up into a good-looking filly.

Obviously I liked her better on the second occasion than on the first. She was always in close touch with Elopement and with a furling to go, got within a head of the colt. Angel Bright faded slightly in the last half-furling to be beaten half a length and at that she did not have a hard race.

MERIT

It was a performance of considerable merit when it is remembered that Angel Bright had not long been in fast work. I feel on fairly safe ground in saying the filly will show in advance of first season form.

She may lack the balance of her full brother but in a year such as this there are more unlikely things than that Angel Bright will be a classic possibility.

Angel Bright is a daughter of Hyperion and so is Hypera. I could not wish to look upon a more exquisite filly than Hypera.

When Hypera made her second and last appearance of the season I had made Hot Water the selection. But if over a filly stood out in the paddock that day it was Hypera.

There was a different story to tell when it came to racing. Hot Water, when quite comfortably and Hypera failed to carry through after being there with a chance a furling from the finish. The filly looked in sound trim, but I am not going to jump to conclusions. She may not have been quite as fit as I thought.

FRONT ROW?

Dream Girl is another entitled to be in the front row. Whether she should be in the front row is still to be decided. I think she is worth another

audition and not until then would I care to pass an opinion. The form book says Dream Girl ran three times, but in one she was virtually left at the post and took no part in the race.

On the third occasion at Sandown the fog was so bad that we could see next to nothing. So there is little on which to pass an opinion.

By Nasrullah out of a Mixtee mare, Dream Girl should not be lacking in stamina. She cost 6,000 guineas as a yearling. It is too early to say whether she is worth it.

(London Express Service)

PROMOTER SAYS

TV Is Killing The Fight Game In America

San Francisco, Jan. 28. The death of the fight game in the United States is near unless something can be done to finance club fights and bring along youngsters for the future, says Bennie Ford, veteran local promoter.

Bemoaning 1953 as "the worst year I ever had," Ford plotted the responsibility for both the present plight and the future possibilities of the game on television.

"There isn't a promoter in the country making money now," says Ford, who has been connected with the game for 38 years. "This was the worst Christmas I ever had. And all because of television."

"Only a few fighters are making money—the ones who can occasionally pick up a \$4,000 or \$5,000 check for a TV bout. The promoters are in worse shape and that includes Madison Square Garden."

LONG TIME IN BETWEEN

"I staged more than a dozen shows in 1953 and made money on only two or three. For a while I dropped between \$500 and \$700 on every show I ran. Sure, a promoter will pick up a few thousand bucks on one show—but it is a long time between money-making shows these days and the expenses go right along."

He pointed out that there were three big nationally-telvised boxing shows each week and that fans would not pay to go to a local fight club when they could see three shows on television right in their own living room.

"Why should they?" he added.—United Press.

Manila Wants To Cancel Interport Soccer Matches

Manila, Jan. 29. Cancellation of this year's Interport soccer matches between Manila and Hongkong has been recommended by the Philippine Amateur Athletic Federation (PAAF) Football Committee, Dr. Regina Alunan, the PAAF Secretary-Treasurer, disclosed last night.

The proximity of the Interport matches, usually staged during Easter weeks, to the Second Asian Games here in May was the reason behind the move.

The move is supported by the policy of the International Olympic Committee forbidding competition between teams prior to matches. However, the cancellation is not yet official since a reply from Hongkong is still being awaited.—France-Press.

National Hunt Committee Favours A Change In The Disqualification Rule

London, Jan. 28.

The Jockey Club's vote in October against a change in the disqualification rule was generally regarded as the last official word for a long time on the question of whether a horse disqualified from first place should automatically be placed last.

Now another official voice has been heard in dissent. The National Hunt Committee, responsible for all steeplechase and hurdle racing in Britain, have upheld the principle that local stewards, at their discretion, should be allowed to place a disqualified "winner" second or third.

Under existing rules, any horse which has been disqualified is regarded as having finished last, and it is not entitled to any prize, and the other horses take positions accordingly.

STRONG SUPPORT

The National Hunt Committee have not changed their rule, and no move to do so will be made before the outcome of their discussion is reported to the Jockey Club stewards. But the fact that have come out in favour of a change is strong support for critics who long

have held that the first should not automatically be last.

The National Hunt Committee expressed their preference for a change by 13 votes to nine, with the three stewards, who had said they also were in favour, abstaining from the vote. The Jockey Club had a majority of only one in favour of retaining the status quo.

Lord Leves, Senior Steward of the National Hunt Committee, said he felt that National Hunt racing provided a rather different problem from flat racing. It happened more often over jumps that two horses outdistanced the rest of the field, and therefore what they did to each other could not affect the others in the race.

This obviously is a good argument for a change in the jumping rule, but it would seem a slender one if used to support the principle that the rules should be different in jumping and flat racing.

If the jumping rule is eventually changed, it seems virtually certain that flat racing will follow suit.

Whatever the differing circumstances in racing under the two codes, the principles of disqualification are the same.—China Mail Special.

Kaneko Knocks Out Bataan

Tokyo, Jan. 28.

Soft-spoken Shigeji Kaneko retained his Far Eastern featherweight title tonight by knocking out challenger Larry Bataan of the Philippines in the fifth round of a 12-round return match.

Kaneko forced the former champion into a corner in the fifth round and battered him down with hard lefts and rights to the head and body. The Filipino was counted out in two minutes 59 seconds.

Bataan lost the crown to Kaneko last December 6, when he was knocked out in the fourth round.—United Press.

TAKEN TO THE BOSOM OF HIS FAMILY

Wellington, Jan. 28.

A young Marlborough speedway rider was taken to the bosom of his family at a speedway meeting on the Taia track, Wellington, in an unconventional manner.

D. Nell parted company with his machine on a bend of the track and flew over the safety fence right into the lap of a spectator. Miraculously uninjured, he scrambled to his feet to thank the owner of the accommodating lap, and to apologise to his uncle.—China Mail Special.

THE GAMBOLS

by Barry Appleby



POINT 10
Surf's
MOUNTAIN OF
LATHER SIMPLY
MAKE GREASE
VANISH.

BUTTERFIELD and SWIRE

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS TO		
"RENGKINGO"	Keelung	5 p.m. 30th Jan.
"KUNNAN"	Shanghai	10 a.m. 31st Jan.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"FENGTIEN"	Bangkok	5 p.m. 30th Jan.
"PAKHOI"	Shanghai	10 a.m. 31st Jan.

A.O. LINE LTD./C.N. CO., LTD., JOINT SERVICE		
SAILINGS TO		
"TAIYUAN"	Kure, Yokohama, Nagoya, Yokohama & Kobe	7th Feb.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"TAIYUAN"	Australia & Manila	3rd Feb.

BLUE FUNNEL LINE		
Scheduled Sailings to Europe via Aden & Port Said		
	Loads	Sails
"PYRRHUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Feb. 6th Feb.
"EUMAEUS"	Liverpool & Glasgow	13th Feb. 14th Feb.
"ASCANIUS"	Liverpool & Dublin	22nd Feb. 23rd Feb.
"AGAPENOR"	Genoa, London, Rotterdam, Amsterdam & Hamburg	21st Feb. 23rd Feb.
"PELEUS"	Marseilles, Liverpool & Glasgow	5th Mar. 6th Mar.

Scheduled Sailings from Europe		
	Sails	Arrives
G. "ASCANIUS"	Liverpool Sailed	Noon 29th Jan. 10 1/2 a.m. Feb.
S. "AGAPENOR"	do do	13th Feb. 13th Feb.
G. "PELEUS"	do do	25th Feb. 25th Feb.
G. "AUTOMEDON"	do do	28th Feb. 28th Feb.
G. "VATERUS"	do do	10th Mar. 10th Mar.
G. "BELLEROPHON"	3rd Feb. 7th Feb.	14th Mar. 14th Mar.
G. "ALCINOUS"	18th Feb. 19th Feb.	25th Mar. 25th Mar.

DE LA RAMA LINES

ARRIVING FROM U.S. ATLANTIC & PACIFIC COAST PORTS.

	Sails N.Y.	Sails S.F.	Arr. H.K.
"DONA ALICIA"	Sailed	Sailed	1st Feb.
"BATAAN"	do do	do do	15th Feb.
"MUNCASTER CASTLE"	do do	do do	6th Mar.
"TELEMACHUS"	do do	do do	16th Mar.
"DONA NATI"	9th Feb.	3rd Mar.	1st Apr.

SAILING FOR NEW YORK, via SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, CRISTOBAL and JAPAN

	Loads	Sails	Arr. H.K.
"DONA AURORA"	17th Feb.	18th Feb.	18th Feb.
"DONA ALICIA"	4th Mar.	5th Mar.	5th Mar.
"BATAAN"	19th Mar.	20th Mar.	20th Mar.

Accept cargo for Kingston and to Central & South American ports on through bills of lading.

Tathay Pacific Airways Ltd.

Route	DC-4	Depart Hongkong
HK/Singapore	(DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Monday
HK/Bangkok/Singapore	(DC-4)	9:00 a.m. Tuesday
HK/Manila/B.N. Borneo	(DC-3)	9:00 a.m. Thursday
HK/Manila/Hongkong	(DC-3)	10:00 a.m. Wednesday
HK/Bangkok/Singapore	(DC-4)	7:00 a.m. Thursday
HK/Bangkok/Hongkong/Calcutta	(DC-4)	12:00 noon Friday

All the above subject to Alteration without notice.

for particulars please apply to:-

Butterfield & Swire (Hongkong) Ltd.

1 Connaught Rd. Tel: 30331/8

Branch Office: 50 Connaught Rd. West. Tel: 25875, 32144, 24878

EVERETT LINES

EVERETT ORIENT LINE

Fast regular freight-refrigerator-passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Rangoon, Calcutta and Chittagong.

"REBEVERETT"

In Port Loading
Sails Jan. 29 for Kobe & Yokohama.

"NOREVERETT"

Arrives Feb. 16 from Singapore.
Sails Feb. 16 for Kobe & Yokohama.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STAR LINE

Fast regular freight-refrigerator-passenger service to Korea, Japan, Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi and Persian Gulf Ports.

"LAO"

Arrives Feb. 13 from Sandakan.
Sails Feb. 14 for Keelung, Okinawa, Kobe & Yokohama.

"STAR BETELGEUSE"

Arrives Feb. 16 from Japan.
Sails Feb. 17 for Singapore, Port Swettenham, Madras, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Bahrain, Basrah & Bahrain.

(Accepting cargo for transshipment Kobe/Fusan and Kobe/Okinawa)

EVERETT STEAMSHIP CORPORATION S/A

(Incorporated in the Republic of Panama with limited liability)

Queen's Building, Telephone 31206.
Chinese Department: Telephone 28293.

CHINA MAIL

HONGKONG PUBLISHED DAILY (AFTERNOONS)

Price, 20 cents per copy. Saturdays 30 cents. Subscription: \$6.00 per month.

Postage: China and Macao \$3.00 per month. U.K. and other countries \$7.00 per month.

News contributions: always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the Secretary. Telephone: 2441 (5 Lines).

KOWLOON OFFICE: Salisbury Road, Telephone: 5223.

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20 WORDS \$4.00 for 1 DAY PREPAID

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Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal \$5.00 per insertion not exceeding 25 words, 25 cents each additional word.

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If not prepaid a booking fee of 50 cents is charged.

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ACCOUNTANCY. Book-Keeping, Company Secretaryship, Costing, Auditing, Method Course (For award of Diploma as Associate Accountant) will assist you to higher status and better salary. Interesting spare-time Postal Study with expert tuition. Guaranteed Courses in English, Commercial and Professional Subjects. London Chamber of Commerce, R.S.A. Institute of Commerce, etc. For Free Booklet, write now to the leading Tutorial Institute for overseas students: London School of Accountancy, 37, Mommouth Street, London, W.C.2., England.

MUSICAL

LP ARRIVALS Rachmaninoff Works Eludes Tableaux Complete, Chopin and Corelli Variations, First Sonata, Powder and Paint, Symphony "The Edia" Songs etc., available at D. Bessie, 4A Des Voeux Road, room 2, 2nd floor, tel. 30109.

FOR SALE

THICK BLACK MARKING PENCILS 80¢ per gross, 14¢ per dozen, 40¢ each. From "S. C. M. Post," Hong Kong & Kowloon.

THE COMPANIES ORDINANCE 1932 Annual Return Forms are on sale at "S. C. M. Post."

NOTICE

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

Ordinary Yearly General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Corporation will be held at the Office of the Corporation, 1 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong, on Friday the 6th day of March, 1954, at Noon for the purpose of receiving and considering the reports of the Directors and of the Auditors and the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1953, and for the election of Directors and the appointment of Auditors.

THE REGISTER OF SHARES of the Corporation will be closed from Friday, the 19th of February to Friday, the 6th of March, 1954, (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board,
MICHAEL W. TURNER,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 12th Jan., 1954.

We buy and sell
Diamonds, Jades, Sapphires
ASTOR JEWELLERY CO.
63 QUEEN'S ROAD C.
TEL: 21750

NOTICE

THE BANK OF EAST ASIA, LIMITED.

Thirty-Fifth Ordinary Yearly General Meeting

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Bank will be held at the Head Office of the Bank, 10, Des Voeux Road, Central, Hong Kong, on Saturday, the 30th day of January, 1954, at 2.30 p.m. for the purpose of receiving and considering the Reports and the Directors and of the Auditors and the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1953, and for the election of Directors and the appointment of Auditors.

The Register of Shares of the Bank will be closed from Saturday, 23rd January, 1954 to Saturday, 30th January, 1954 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of share can be registered.

By Order of the Board,
KAN TONG PO,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 15th Jan., 1954.

To ADVERTISERS

SUNDAY POST-HERALD Space for commercial advertising should be booked not later than noon on Wednesdays.

For the **SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST** and the **CHINA MAIL**, 48 hours before date of publication. Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

P.O. Box 53 Queen's Building Tel: 26861

HONGKONG TO MARSEILLES in 24 days.

t.v. "VIET-NAM"	sailing	February 1st
t.v. "CAMBODGE"	"	February 19th
m.v. "LA MARSEILLAISE"	"	March 27th
t.v. "VIET-NAM"	"	April 17th
t.v. "CAMBODGE"	"	May 15th
m.v. "LA MARSEILLAISE"	"	June 19th

Dr Strasser

Given A

Travel Permit

Ottawa, Jan. 28.

Dr Otto Strasser, former German Socialist leader who has been living as a political refugee in Canada since World War II, has been granted a certificate of identity permitting him to travel outside this country if he wishes, it was learned tonight.

The Citizenship Minister, Walter Harris, confirmed the certificate had been issued to Dr Strasser but said the action "means nothing" in the way of recognizing him as a Canadian. The certificate was similar to others granted by the External Affairs Department to other political refugees.

Dr Strasser, who has been living at Paradise, Nova Scotia, was not kept in Canada by an official action but until he obtained the certificate showing he was normally a resident of this country he could not go abroad and expect to return. The Citizenship Department said last year that Dr Strasser was free to leave Canada "any time he wants to."

Dr Strasser was not available for comment. He has no telephone at his home in the small Nova Scotia community and his nearest neighbour, who has a phone, said her house was snow-bound and she could not get across the street for some time to call him to the telephone.

Officials at the German Embassy here declined to comment on his case. Officials here said they had no knowledge of Dr Strasser's travel plans. They said the certificate of identity would not be accepted by all countries for travel purposes. It would be up to the foreign country concerned to decide whether the certificate would be valid for entry into its territory as far as Dr Strasser was concerned, officials said.

"The whole problem in connection with Dr Strasser," said an official, "is that no country wants him."

Dr Strasser tried last year to get himself deported to West Germany but the Canadian government said he could not be deported unless he violated Canada's immigration laws. He was admitted to Canada as a political refugee. The West German government refused to take him in last year on the grounds that his passport was irregular—United Press.

P&O B.I. E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CANTON"	10th January	12th February
"CARTHAGE"	4th February	6th March
"CORFU"	4th March	5th April
Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore		
Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CHUSAN"	1st February	1st March
"CANTON"	15th February	15th March
"CARTHAGE"	12th March	12th April
"CORFU"	9th April	10th May

Accepting cargo for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London

(* Calling Marseilles)

FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Arrives	From
"TRESILLIAN"	In Port	U.K. Continent, Via Straits
"TREGENNA"	In Port	"
"SOUDAN"	2nd February	"

With liberty to call at Belawan before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if inducement offers.

Tanks available for cargo of Oil in Bulk Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited Passenger accommodation.

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"ANSUN"	In Port sails 31st Jan.	from Japan for Singapore, Penang Rangoon & Calcutta
"SANTHA"	due 1st Feb. sails 2nd Feb.	from Calcutta, Rangoon & Straits for Moll, Yokohama Kobe
"FULTALA"	due 7th Feb. sails 8th Feb.	from Japan for Singapore, Rangoon Chittagong & Calcutta

P. & O. B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"UMARIA"	In Port	from Japan
	sails 30th Jan.	for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Chittagong, Basrah direct, Also P. Gulf ports via Bombay
"OLINDA"	due 7th Feb.	from Japan
	sails 8th Feb.	for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Persian Gulf Ports via Bombay
"OZARDA"	due 14th Feb.	from Japan
	sails 15th Feb.	for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Persian Gulf Ports via Bombay
"OBRA"	due 21st Feb.	from Japan
	sails 22nd Feb.	for Singapore, Colombo, Bombay, Karachi, Kuwait, Persian Gulf Ports via Bombay

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"NANKIN"	due 6th Feb.	from Japan
	sails 6th Feb.	for Rabaul, Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide & Melbourne
"EASTERN"	due 26th Feb.	from Australia
	sails 27th Feb.	for Japan

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

For full particulars apply to:-
MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.
OF HONG KONG LTD.
Telephone Nos. 27721-4.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN

By Lee Falk and Phil Davis



FERD'NAND

What's So Funny?



NANCY

Who's Insulted?

By Ernie Bushmiller



JOHNNY HAZARD

By Frank Robbins



British Policy On Civil Defence

London, Jan. 28. In a statement on civil defence in the House of Commons today, the Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe, said: "The policy of the government, which is in all respects the same as that of the last (Labour) administration, has been and is directed to the prevention of war, and not to the preparations for a war occasioned to be imminent, or even inevitable."

It followed from this policy that preparations likely to deter a would-be aggressor from attacks on this country might have the first claim on our resources.

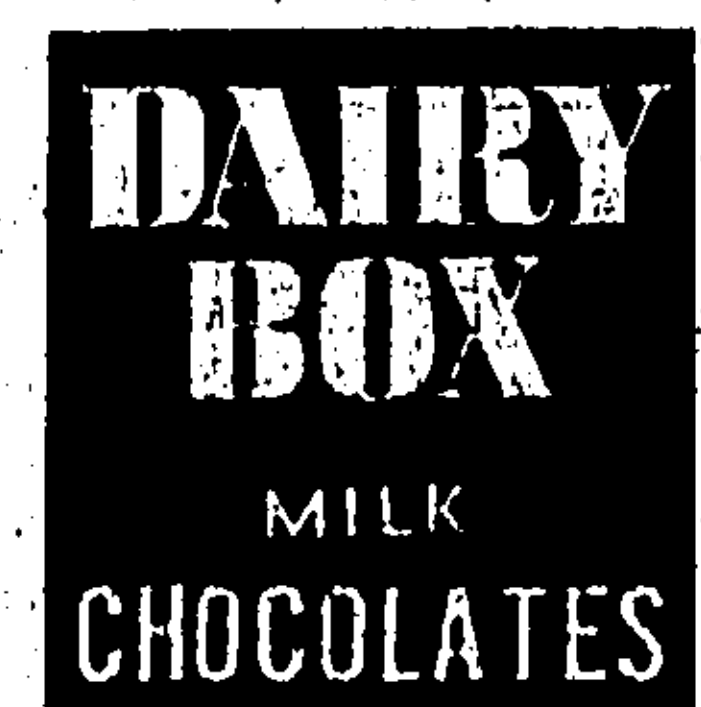
"The object of civil defence planning has been to build up the nucleus of an organisation with a view to its subsequent expansion if necessary," Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe said. Franco-Press.

Rhodesian Elections

Salisbury, Jan. 28. The United Rhodesia Party, led by the Prime Minister, Mr. R. S. Garfield Todd, has gained an overwhelming victory in the first South Rhodesian general election since the formation of the Central African Federation (comprising North, and South Rhodesia and Tanganyika) in September last year.

The Party won 28 out of 30 seats in the House.

Advocating "racial partnership," it completely eclipsed Colonel D. B. Huxford's Conservative Party, which supports a policy of racial segregation which failed to get any votes.



CROSSLEY BROTHERS LTD.
MARINE, STATIONARY & AUXILIARY
MARINE DIESEL ENGINES.
ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS
R.M. & Shanghai Bank Bldg. Tel. 37789

CHINA MAIL

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1954.

SHEAFFER'S
ADMIRAL
NEW
"SHORKEL"
PEN

JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Time on her hands

It was late for anyone to call. In the Buildings, where Hazel had her flat, most people worked hard and went to bed early. There were one or two inclined to stay out late on pay nights and come in noisily; a few others whose radios blared after bedtime.

But people did not call upon each other in the early hours of the morning. Hazel began to think she must have imagined that the front-door bell had rung. Then it rang again.

She opened the door. Outside were a group of men, "Police officers," they said. "We want to search your flat."

"Come in," Hazel said. She glanced at the clock on the mantelpiece in the sitting-room. It showed the time as 12.50.

TWO FELLOWS
The detectives crowded in. "Try not to wake the child," Hazel said, and waved an arm towards the room where her schoolgirl daughter was asleep.
The detectives opened an old cigar-box on the sideboard. It was heavy with minute pieces of metal. "What are these?" they asked Hazel.
"I dunno," she answered.
"Two fellows," called Freddy and Jim left them here for Joe, one day a couple of months ago.

Joe was Hazel's man friend. He had been a great comfort in the empty times since her divorce. The day before, he had been arrested, imprisoned for something Hazel knew nothing about.
10,000 ARTICLES
The detectives went on with their search. Then went away. They were back a couple of days later.
One of them drew a long breath and said to Hazel: "I am charging you with receiving 5141 watch balance staffs, 2887 watch winding stems, 283 watch wheels, (all of which had all been in the cigar-box), five watch straps, one cigar-box and one holdall."
To the charge of stealing nearly 10,000 articles, Hazel pleaded not guilty at Clerkenwell. She sat back in the dock, pale, but composed, dark haired woman of 37, with her counsel, a younger woman, argued the case for her defence.
The stolen parts of clocks and watches were proved to

HOLLY AND ROBINS

"I thought they all looked like gramophone needles," Hazel said. "These two men just came and asked to see Joe, and I went off to make a cup of tea for them."
"Then, when they had gone, Joe showed me the cigar-box and I said, 'What on earth do you want all those gramophone needles for?'" He said they were watch parts and he was going to sell them in Petticoat Lane. He asked me to help to sort them.

"They do look like gramophone needles," said Hazel's quiet-voiced, bushy-haired counsel, Mr. F. H. Powell, the magistrate, inspected the stolen goods and made no comment.
REASONABLE DOUBT
When the case was completed, the magistrate said: "There is a reasonable doubt that this woman knew, at the time she received these things, that they were stolen. That she may have become aware later on does not make her guilty."

He dismissed the case. Hazel humbly left the court, with a glance in her way out at the clock. As though she were thinking what a lot she had to do that morning—or marvelling at the myriad of tiny parts working behind its simple face.

Funeral Of Mr George Grey

The funeral service of the late Mr. George W. Grey, who died suddenly last night, will be held in the Missions to Seamen Chapel, Gloucester Road, at 3 p.m. today, followed by cremation.
The service will be conducted by the Rev. Haig Brown, Chaplain to the British Legion. It is requested no flowers be sent, but donations be made to the British Legion Earl Haig's Fund.

Cracker Firing At New Year

The Secretary for Chinese Affairs and the District Commissioner, New Territories, have given general permission for fireworks to be discharged during certain periods on February 2, 3, 4, and 9. It was notified in the Government Gazette today.
The public are requested to pay particular attention to this notice as the arrangements are different from those on previous years. There will be less restriction on the discharge of fireworks, but the public are warned that it is intended to enforce strictly the prohibition of the discharge of fireworks within the permitted hours on the dates specified.
The following are the details of the periods during which fireworks may be discharged without a permit:
On the Island of Hongkong, and in Kowloon and New Kowloon: From 4 p.m. on 2nd February, 1954 (Chinese New Year's Eve) to 4 p.m. on 4th February, 1954 (the second day of the Chinese New Year), except between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. on each day. From 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on 9th February, 1954.
In the New Territories: (1) From 4 p.m. on 2nd February, 1954 to 4 p.m. on 4th February, 1954. From 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. on 9th February, 1954.

ALL CONDITIONS
All police officers have strict orders to summon or arrest any person who discharges fireworks outside the permitted hours on the dates specified or who fails to observe the following conditions:
No unlawful fireworks shall be let off, discharged or kindled.
No burning firework or other fire shall be thrown above the head of any person or inhabitable building and every reasonable precaution must be taken against accident.
The firing of bombs, "Electric" crackers and "Golden Coin" crackers is strictly prohibited.
No person shall make, sell, or have in his possession any firework which explodes on impact, or which contains any explosive ingredient or mixture other than black gunpowder, charcoal, sulphur, saltpetre, aluminium and potassium perchlorate, or which has in any single container thereof more than 10 grains of any explosive mixture in which potassium perchlorate is an ingredient.
(See rule set forth in Government Notice No. 79 published in the Government Gazette dated 10th February, 1953.)
Occupiers of premises are warned as to their liability under Section 30 of the Summary Offences Ordinance, Cap. 228, in particular in respect of any unlawful firing or throwing of fireworks in or from their premises.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Do I have to go through this just to play for my friends? All the kids I know would rather hear records!"

Profit Of \$44,438 From Investments

A net profit of \$44,438.38 from investments, was recorded at the 14th Annual General Meeting of the Shanghai Dockyards, Ltd., which was held this morning in the Board room of Jardine, Matheson and Co., Ltd.

Mr. C. H. Arnold, Chairman, said in his report: "Concurrently with the Report and Accounts for last year, a Statement by the Chairman was circulated to Shareholders which took the place of the usual lengthy speech at the Annual General Meeting. This procedure met with general approval and is therefore being continued.
There is unfortunately very little to tell Shareholders. As was reported last year, all the Company's properties in Shanghai were requisitioned on 15th August, 1952, by the Military Control Commission of the People's Government of China. These assets are still under requisition and the position therefore remains unchanged."
ONLY INCOME
The only income earned by the Company has been on its investments, and the greater part of this is frozen because the majority of the investments are blocked by U.S. Treasury Order. Gross income for the year amounts to \$60,000. The present Directors have valued their fees for the year to 30th September, 1953, but it is proposed, subject to the approval of Shareholders, to divide the sum of \$6,000 among the Directors who held office in Shanghai until their retirement on 30th April, 1953. After charging this sum, audit fees and other sundry expenses, the net profit for the year is \$44,438.38 which the Board propose to carry forward.
It will also be seen from the attached Accounts, which are subject to Shareholders' approval, that the debit balance on Profit and Loss Account brought forward from the previous year, amounting to \$3,004,005.99, has been extinguished by the transfer of a similar sum from the General Reserve Account. The latter Reserve was clearly unrealistic, as it was a large debit balance on Profit and Loss Account.
I do not think there is anything further which I can usefully add to the Directors' Report."

Mr. R. A. Mirams has been appointed to act as Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, from January 24, vice Mr. W. O. Davies. It was announced in the Government Gazette today.
Other appointments gazetted were: Mr. A. G. Gilles to act as an Assistant Superintendent of Crown Lands, P.W.D., during the absence of Mr. R. H. Hughes; Mr. Lawrence Kadourie to be a member of the panel of the Board of Review; Mr. P. Nettle to be a member of the Welfare Committee, and a member of the Mercantile Marine Assistance Fund Committee, vice Mr. G. T. Lloyd (resigned).
Mr. W. Grive, Surveyor of Ships, has been confirmed to the permanent and pensionable establishment; Mr. Lau Ping-hang has ceased to be an authorised inspector for the purpose of the Emergency (Resettlement Areas) General Rules of 1952.
The following have been appointed authorised inspectors for the purpose of the Emergency (Resettlement Areas) General Rules of 1952: Messrs. Au Fook-hon, Ng Jim-tak and Tsang Shin-tak.

Official Appointments

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Importation Ban

The importation of cats by land or sea or by air, from any country, is prohibited, it was announced in the Government Gazette today.
This Order does not apply to animals imported under conditions approved by the Chairman of the Urban Council.

King Discharged By Magistrate

(Continued from Page 1)
no effect on the jurisdiction of this Court.
Another point raised by Defence Counsel was that no Company or Corporation can become an informer. After citing five cases on this point, his Worship drew attention to a passage in one of the authorities which said there was a distinction between a corporation suing for penalties and a corporation prosecuting for the infliction of a penalty.
Mr. Poon continued: There is another point raised by Defence Counsel which I should like to mention at this stage. Defence Counsel has submitted that Mr. d'Almeida and Mr. Clifford, Counsel for the Prosecution, had no audience. This point was raised after Defence Counsel had made his submission of no case to answer, and in fact before that I had already heard Mr. d'Almeida and Mr. Clifford. In all the cases I have cited, the right of audience of Counsel for the Prosecution had never been challenged, so I am of the opinion that Counsel for the Prosecution had a right to address me in reply to the submission of no case to answer.
Apart from the authorities which I have quoted to show that I have jurisdiction to hear this case, I still maintain my previous decision which I gave, that I will decide this case on the merits of the case on the following facts.

THE PROCEDURE
The defendant was first brought before this Court on October 16, 1952. The Prosecution was represented by the eminent leader of the Bar and a very eminent junior Counsel and the defendant was equally represented by an eminent solicitor of this Court. Defendant through his solicitor pleaded to the charge. Witnesses were called, examined, cross-examined and re-examined, and neither side had raised the question of jurisdiction of this Court. It was not even after the close of the case for the Prosecution, that it was after Defence Counsel had made his submission of no case to answer, that this point of jurisdiction was raised. The conduct of the parties in this case only indicated that this Court had jurisdiction to hear the case. Besides, the merits of the case have been gone into and I have heard the merits.
Now, to deal with the merits of the case. There are a number of points raised by the Defence in this case and I consider there is no necessity for me to express my opinion or give a decision on most of them. I will just mention the points briefly. Firstly, it has been suggested there was malice on the part of the Prosecution or that the defendant was prosecuted with an ulterior motive. In cross-examination a lot of things were brought on which I don't think I need mention now. I don't think it is a matter for the Court's consideration. The only issue is whether the defendant is guilty or not guilty of the charge.
Secondly, the point of approbation and reprobation. I don't want to give my opinion on this point, but I would cite Halsbury on this.
Thirdly, the point of double proceedings, civil and criminal. It is suggested that a Magistrate should not entertain a criminal charge arising out of civil proceedings still pending on the ground that my decision will embarrass the Judge in the Civil Court. On this point, I want to make this remark—that my decision is not binding on the civil court nor can it be admitted as evidence in a civil court. The Judge in a civil court or any other court will decide the issue before them only on what is adduced in court and not on anything outside the Court.
NOT FRAUDULENT
On the question of a secret profit or a secret commission, I say there is no doubt that both parties have agreed that neither of these constitute fraudulent conversion.
It has also been suggested by Defence Counsel that from the facts on the evidence adduced in this Court, seven possible and probable inferences can be drawn and one possible inference is that the defendant is guilty. As this case is based on circumstantial evidence it is submitted the Court cannot pick and choose and defendant must be given the benefit of the doubt.
The Defence has also suggested that the Prosecution has failed to adduce evidence to prove that the \$9,209.88 is Falconer's property. Before I come to deal with this, I must first consider the charge of

fraudulent conversion, and note that the three necessary ingredients are (1) the money must be the property of a corporation or company—in this case, Falconer's; (2) that the defendant being either a director, manager or officer of the corporation was entrusted with this money; and (3) that the defendant converted this money to his own use or to the use of any other person other than the owner.
TRUE FACTS
From the evidence adduced in Court I consider that the following facts are true facts, without doubt: (1) that the defendant as manager of Falconer's did draw \$18,550.82 from Falconer's account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—that is not challenged; (2) that this amount was paid into Mrs. King's account with the American Express; (3) the \$9,209.88 was paid to the Mercantile Bank for the goods; (4) the difference between these two amounts remained in the King's account after November 10, 1950.
After having considered all the evidence carefully and also the submissions by Counsel on both sides I come to the conclusion that the most important point for me to decide is only one, namely, whether this money was Falconer's property or not. If it is Falconer's money, the defendant has a case to answer; on the other hand, if it is not, definitely he has no case to answer.
In deciding whether this money is Falconer's or not I have to consider whether the contractual price in 1950 was \$16,550.82 or \$9,209.88. The Prosecution alleged that the actual contractual price was \$9,209.88 on the following facts: (1) payment of only \$9,209.88 was made to the Mercantile Bank in respect of the goods; (2) the goods in this case had been insured for only \$2,778, which is the equivalent of \$9,209.88. Factually this is the evidence given by Mr. Rosenfeld, who said that he had called the invoice of the goods, the other invoice of the goods, the Bank or from King, the defendant, which contained the true amount of payment to Holden's and that amount, which he could not remember exactly, was much less than \$13,000.

Big Freeze

(Continued from Page 1)
their haunts by cold, have approached houses to seek food. Ice flows over much of the River Danube stopped all shipping.
Oslo: Rivers have become partially jammed with ice. Farmers near Trondheim are keeping a day and night watch in case their farms are flooded. Houses near the river Nære were flooded today and dynamite was used to blast a passage for the river.
Frankfurt: Coastal and inland traffic and river shipping was stopped by ice. Several islands off the North Sea coast were without contact with the mainland.
Brussels: Winter grains in the East Belgian province of Luxembourg were destroyed by frost. Three people died of exposure. Wild bear and foxes approached country villages today.
Chicago: Forty children were marooned for the night near Lake Huron when their school bus stalled in snowdrifts. Snow fell over much of the eastern United States today.

Radio Hongkong

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